Closed NTC mills

†910. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the textile mills under NTC are closed at present and its workers are unemployed;

(b) whether it is also a fact that property in these mills has been deteriorating and land under such mills is lying unused; and

(c) if so, by when Government would solve the problems of such mills?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL): (a) As per the Rehabilitation Scheme sanctioned by BIFR, 31 non-functional unviable mills of NTC have been closed under ID Act and their employees have been relieved after giving benefits under modified VRS. All the workers in the remaining mills are in employment and being paid wages.

(b) and (c) As per approved Revival Scheme, the cost of revival is to be financed by sale of surplus assets of NTC mills. Part of surplus machinery of 35 mills and land of 7 mills has been sold till date. Sale of surplus machinery and land of other mills is under process.The remaining machinery and land in other mills are regularly in use.

Textiles Growth Centre

911. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Textile Centre Infrastructure Development Scheme for providing financial assistance to infrastructural families at established Textile Growth Centres has been launched;

(b) if so, whether financial assistance has been provided or proposed to be sanctioned to growth centres in any centre in Tamil Nadu;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL): (a) to (d) State Government of Tamil Nadu has forwarded project proposals under TCIDS for Karur, Kanchipuram and Dindigul centres. The State Government has been advised to formulate the project proposals in line with the revised guidelines announced in November, 2002 and a checklist has also been sent to them for their guidance in making the project report professional and detailed.

Concession to Indian textile sector to compete with Chinese textile sector

†912. SHRI D.P.YADAV: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to give further concessions to Indian textile sector in order to compete with Chinese textile sector;

(b) whether Government contemplate to set up a reconstruction fund for rejuvenation of sick industries;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL): (a) Taking note of the new challenges and opportunities presented by the changing global environment including an integration of the world textile and clothing markets by end 2004, the Government of India have announced a National Textile Policy in November, 2000 to develop a strong and vibrant textile industry capable of producing cloth of good quality at acceptable prices as well as of competing with confidence with other textile producing countries including China for an increasing share of global market. Some of the major initiatives undertaken for implementation of the Policy are:-

(i) De-reservation of woven readymade garment sector from SSI.

(ii) Announcement in two consecutive Budgets aiming *inter alia* at further rationalisation of duty structure in the textile sector and reducing costs of machinery critical to technology upgradation;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.